Major Applied Research 3 Working Paper 1

Equity of Health Sector Revenue Generation and Allocation in Guatemala

August 1998

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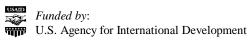




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Mission

The Partnerships for Health Reform (PHR) Project seeks to improve people's health in low- and middle-income countries by supporting health sector reforms that ensure equitable access to efficient, sustainable, quality health care services. In partnership with local stakeholders, PHR promotes an integrated approach to health reform and builds capacity in the following key areas:

- ▶ better informed and more participatory policy processes in health sector reform;
- more equitable and sustainable health financing systems;
- improved incentives within health systems to encourage agents to use and deliver efficient and quality health service; and
- enhanced organization and management of health care systems and institutions to support specific health sector reforms.

PHR advances knowledge and methodologies to develop, implement, and monitor health reforms and their impact, and promotes the exchange of information on critical health reform issues.

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Abstract

This paper presents methods and results from the Partnerships for Health Reform Project's empirical work on equity carried out in four departments of Guatemala, using government-supplied data as well as household survey information on health care spending. It is part of a larger study that will provide more in-depth analysis. Section 2 of the paper presents an overview of the health sector in Guatemala; Section 3 provides basic information on government health care financing in that country; Section 4 describes the household survey used in the analysis; Section 5 presents the results; and Section 6 offers policy conclusions. This analysis found significant inequity in health care delivery in the departments studied, particularly for curative health care delivery, and recommends increased public health spending either through direct investment in government health facilities or through income subsidies for the poor.

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Acronyms

ENGAS Household Health Care Demand and Expenditure Survey

GNP Gross National Product

IGSS Guatemalan Social Security Institute (Instituto Guatemalteco para la

Seguridad Social)

MSPAS Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistence (Ministerio de Salud

Pública y Asistencia Social)

NGO Non-governmental Organization

PHR Partnerships for Health Reform Project

USAID United States Agency for International Development

Acronyms

Foreword

Part of the mission of the Partnerships in Health Reform Project (PHR) is to advance "knowledge and methodologies to develop, implement, and monitor health reforms and their impact." This goal is addressed not only through PHR's technical assistance work but also through its Applied Research program, designed to complement and support technical assistance activities. The program comprises Major Applied Research studies and Small Applied Research grants.

The Major Applied Research topics that PHR is pursuing are those in which there is substantial interest on the part of policymakers, but only limited hard empirical evidence to guide policymakers and policy implementors. Currently researchers are investigating six main areas:

- Analysis of the process of health financing reform
- The impact of alternative provider payment systems
- Expanded coverage of priority services through the private sector
- Equity of health sector revenue generation and allocation patterns
- Impact of health sector reform on public sector health worker motivation
- Decentralization: local level priority setting and allocation

Each Major Applied Research Area yields working papers and technical papers. Working papers reflect the first phase of the research process. The papers are varied; they include literature reviews, conceptual papers, single country-case studies, and document reviews. None of the papers is a polished final product; rather, they are intended to further the research process—shedding further light on what seemed to be a promising avenue for research or exploring the literature around a particular issue. While they are written primarily to help guide the research team, they are also likely to be of interest to other researchers, or policymakers interested in particular issues or countries.

Ultimately, the working papers will contribute to more final and thorough pieces of research work, such as multi-country studies and reports presenting methodological developments or policy relevant conclusions. These more polished pieces will be published as technical papers.

All reports will be disseminated by the PHR Resource Center and via the PHR website.

Sara Bennett, Ph.D. Director, Applied Research Program Partnerships for Health Reform

Foreword

01. Introduction

Equitable access to a minimum set of personal health services is a major stated objective of many countries' health policies.¹ Actions are taken or, in some cases, policy options are set aside, in pursuit of this objective.

A recent World Health Organization publication seeks to put new emphasis on equity in health care.² Among other things, it calls for research into equity promoting policies and crossnational exchanges and comparisons.

The Partnerships for Health Reform (PHR) Project has set out to study equity in health care delivery and financing in developing countries, to contribute to the nascent but growing body of empirical knowledge in this area. The concept paper for this study defines the goals and objectives of PHR's work in this area, and proposes that research be carried out in several developing countries around the world.

Specific research questions that PHR wishes to address through its work include the following:

- What is the incidence, or distributional effect, of the combination of revenue generation methods used for personal health services (incidence of financing)?³
- A What is the incidence of spending allocations for personal health services (incidence of delivery)?
- A What is the distribution of health status that results from the incidences of financing and delivery for personal health services?
- A What do cross-country comparisons of results tell us about policies taken or foregone in the pursuit of equity?
- A How well do government's attempts to use policies to achieve equity objectives meet those objectives?

PHR's equity research work comprises two phases. Phase I, which draws on the study of central government health expenditure information and household survey data, is an initial examination of equity in financing and delivery. Phase II uses further information and more specialized diagnostic tools to provide a more in-depth analysis of equity in financing and delivery. The current paper contains the output of Phase I work. It presents methods and results

1. Introduction 1

¹ Personal, as opposed to public or collective, health services are at issue here. Health services with public good characteristics, such as a safe water supply and epidemiological surveillance, are collectively consumed and almost always collectively financed through government general revenues. The equity of this financing is not in dispute. However, the equity of financing methods and allocations of resources for personal services, such as treatments for illness or injury and individual protection through preventive screenings or immunizations, is controversial. The equity of financing and allocations for personal health services is the target of the proposed research.

² World Health Organization (1996).

³ Impact on socioeconomic status groups.

from the project's empirical work on equity carried out in four departments of Guatemala, using government-supplied data on health spending and household-level information from a recent survey on health care consumption and spending.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 presents an overview of the health sector in Guatemala. Section 3 provides basic information about government health care financing in the country. Section 4 describes the household survey that produced the data set used in the analysis of equity. Section 5 presents the results from that analysis. Finally, Section 6 offers a brief summary and policy conclusions.

02. Health Sector Overview

2.1 Health and Demography

Guatemala is a middle income Central American country with a population of approximately 10.6 million people in mid-1995 (see Table 2.1). Compared to countries with similar per capita gross national product (GNP) (in 1995 Guatemala's was US\$ 1,340), Guatemala's fertility rate of 4.7 children per women is considered to be high, leading to a population growth rate of 2.9 percent between 1990 and 1995.

Child immunization coverage is relatively low compared to other Latin American countries. In 1990-91 only 63 percent of the children received the third dose of DPT and less than half were immunized against measles. The prevalence of infectious diseases is high, as well as those diseases caused by poor nutritional habits. (Almost 64 percent of all causes of death in 1995 were due to infectious, nutritional, and perinatal health problems.) Most of these deaths could be prevented at a relatively low cost with improved sanitation, immunizations, and other basic health services.

Table 2.1 Economic, Demographic and Health Indicators for Guatemala and Other Latin American Countries*

Selected Indicators	Bolivia	Guatemala	Ecuador	El Salvador
Demographic Indicators				
Population in mid-1995 (millions)	7.4	10.6	11.5	5.6
Population growth rate (%) 1980-90	2.0	2.8	2.5	1.0
Population growth rate (%) 1990-95	2.4	2.9	2.2	2.2
Fertility rate (children per woman) 1980	5.5	6.2	5.0	5.3
Fertility rate (children per woman) 1995	4.5	4.7	3.2	3.7
Health Indicators				
Life expectancy at birth (years), 1995	60	66	69	6766
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) 1980	118	75	67	81
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) 1995	69	44	36	36
Years of life lost per 1,000 population, 1990	59	41	21	28
Prevalence of malnutrition (under 5), 1989-95 (%)	13	N.A.	45	22
Babies with low birth weight, 1991 (%)	9	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Health Coverage Indicators				
Children immunized with the third dose of DPT, 1990-91 (%)	58	63	89	60
Children immunized against measles, 1990-91	73	48	54	53
Births attended by health staff, 1985 (%)	36	19	27	35
Medical Resources				
Doctors per 1,000 population, 1988-92	0.48	0.44	1.04	0.64
Nurse-to-doctor ratio, 1988-92	0.7	2.5	0.3	1.5
Hospital beds per 1,000 population, 1985-90	1.3	1.7	1.7	1.5
National Income and Health Expenditure				_
Per capita GNP, 1995 (US\$)	800	1,340	1,390	1,610
Per capita total health expenditure, 1990 (US\$)	25	31	43	61
Total health expenditure as a percentage of GNP, 1990	4.0	3.7	4.1	5.9
Public health expenditure as a percentage of GNP, 1990	2.4	2.1	2.6	2.6
Private health expenditure as a percentage of GNP, 1990	1.6	1.6	1.6	3.3
Aid flows as a percentage of total health expenditure, 1990	20.3	11.1	7.0	13.9

Source: The World Bank, 1993, 1995 and 1997.

^{*}Organized from left to right in ascending order according to per capita GNP in 1995.

2.2 Health Sector Organization

Guatemala's health sector comprises the public subsector, the private subsector, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), each with a number of institutions dedicated to health care provision and financing. Traditional medicine is also an important part of health care provision.

The public subsector is made up of administrative agencies that operate both at the centralized and decentralized levels; they include: (1) the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (*Ministerio de Salud Pública y Asistencia Social*, MSPAS), responsible for the public financing and delivery of health care; (2) the Guatemalan Social Security Institute (*Instituo Guatemalteco para la Seguridad Social*, IGSS); (3) Military Health (*Sanidad Militar*); (4) Municipal Health (*Sanidad Municipal*); and (5) the Social Welfare Secretariat (*Secretaria de Bienestar Social*).

The private subsector is made up of private practices and private institutions as well as NGOs. Approximately 9,000 medical doctors operate in the country privately, although a high proportion of them is concentrated in the capital city. It is estimated that 350 NGOs are active in the health sector, the majority of which holds no link to the MSPAS.

The role of the private subsector in the provision and financing of health care cannot be overlooked. In 1997 the public subsector accounted for almost 60 percent of all hospitalizations in Guatemala while private providers accounted for another 35 percent. Furthermore, 43 percent of all expenditures on health care are made in the private sector (see Table 2.1). Finally, there is an important subsector of traditional medicine, which comes from the Maya-Quiche culture, and whose participation in the health care system has been poorly studied.

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⁴ Bitrán *et al.* 1998.

03. Public Finances and Government Health Spending

In 1991, about 45 percent of government revenue came from tax sources and 55 percent from non-tax sources (Table 3.1). Indirect taxes accounted for 33.7 percent of all revenues, while direct taxes represented only 11.1 percent. The Value Added Tax alone collected 14.6 percent of all resources. Two-thirds of all non-tax revenue was from internal and foreign loans.

Table 3.1 Total Government Revenue, 1991 (thousands of US\$)⁵

Source	Amount	Percentage
Direct Taxes		
Corporate and Personal Income Tax	110.5	10.0
Wealth Tax	11.9	1.1
Subtotal	122.4	11.1
Indirect Taxes		
Tax on Value Added	161.1	14.6
Import Taxes	117.3	10.7
Taxes on Alcohol and Tobacco	47.0	4.3
Other Indirect Taxes	45.5	4.1
Subtotal	370.9	33.7
Total Tax Revenue	493.3	44.8
Special Non-Tax Revenue	59.0	5.4
Revenues From Improved Taxation	100.4	9.1
Transfers	110.8	10.1
Other Current Revenue	9.4	0.9
Revenues from Capital		
Internal Loans	159.6	14.5
Foreign Loans	168.3	15.3
Total Non-Tax Revenue	607.5	55.2
Total Revenue	1100.8	100.0

Source: La Forgia 1993.

 $^{^{\}scriptsize 5}$ The exchange rate in 1991 was Qz. 5.0289 = 1 US\$.

Table 3.2 presents the sources of financing of the Ministry of Health in 1989 and 1990. The distribution of sources did not vary substantially in these two years. Almost 80 percent came from direct and indirect taxes, the remaining being financed by loans (about 11.0 percent) and external assistance (around 8.5 percent). Cost recovery in public health facilities was very small.

Table 3.2 Sources of Financing of Public Health Services as a Percentage of Total Public Health Expenditure, 1989-90 (%)

Source	1989	1990
Direct and Indirect Taxes		
Ministry of Health	68.4	71.0
Other	11.7	7.2
Loans	10.6	11.2
External Assistance/Donations	8.4	8.5
User Fees	0.8	0.6

Source: La Forgia 1993.

04. Household Survey

4.1 Introduction

The survey analysis discussed in this section draws on the 1997 Household Health Care Demand and Expenditure Survey (*Encuesta Nacional de Gastos y Asistencia Social*, ENGAS-97) carried out by Guatemala's National Statistical Institute in 1997 in four departments of Guatemala: Quetzaltenango, San Marcos, Sololá, and Totonicapán. Together these departments account for 15 percent of the country's total population. The aim of the survey was to study health care—seeking behavior and spending among Mayan Indians, hence the choice of four of the nation's departments with the highest concentration of Mayans. The survey was based on a representative sample of 2,600 households in the four departments.

4.2 Sample Design

According to the CENSUS-94, the combined population of the four departments was 1,643,463, of which three-fourths lived in rural areas. Table 4.1 shows the estimated population of each of the departments, and the final sample adopted for the survey. Annex B provides a detailed characterization of the universe (the four departments), according to gender, literacy rates, age composition, and household size.

Table 4.1 Total Population and Survey Sample

Department	Population	Sample
Quetzaltenango	503,857	578
San Marcos	645,418	803
Sololá	222,094	568
Totonicapán	272,094	654
Total	1,643,463	2,603

Source: CENSUS-94

To study health care—seeking behavior by different population groups, the analysis presents results according to the following four strata:

- Department
- ▲ Ethnic group (Native Mayan Indian or Ladino)
- Area (urban or rural)
- Per capita household spending quintiles

4. Household Survey

4.3 Household Survey Instrument

The survey questionnaire was divided into the following six sections (see Annex A for further detail): (1) self-perception of a health problem over a 30-day recall period and related use of health care; (2) total household consumption of and spending on goods and services (including household-produced goods); (3) health care spending by all household members in the last four weeks; (4) use of hospital services in the previous year; (5) use of obstetric services in the preceding year; and (6) immunizations for children under 3 years. Consumption and spending information is presented in Quetzales, Guatemala's national currency, and in U.S. dollars, at the observed exchange rate of 1 US\$ = 5.8 Qz in 1997.

4.4 Assessment of Socioeconomic Level

Several studies of health care demand carried out in developing countries have found a strong link between a household's socioeconomic status and both the incidence of health problems and the patterns of health care among household members. Assessing socioeconomic status is not a simple undertaking, however. This is particularly true in poor and rural communities where a good share of household consumption is self-produced, and where income flows are seasonal. Further, evidence indicates that households tend to under-report income in surveys.

Income, therefore, does not appear to be the most appropriate indicator of a household's socioeconomic status. The World Bank's Living Standards Measurement Surveys Division recommends measuring household consumption of goods and services as a variable that better reflects a household's permanent income and socioeconomic status. For several years now, household studies of health care demand in the developing world have adopted the above methodology. In those studies, a good part of the survey instrument is devoted to the measurement of household consumption; this was the case in Guatemala's ENGAS survey as well.

Using monthly household consumption of goods and services as a proxy for socioeconomic status, PHR researchers constructed consumption quintiles as a way of categorizing, and studying separately, illness incidence and health care consumption.

There are three methods to build quintiles. The method used throughout the body of this paper is per capita consumption quintiles based on the entire population, with Quintile 1 representing lowest consumption and Quintile 5 highest consumption. A second method is per capita consumption quintiles based separately on rural and urban populations, which more clearly represents consumption differences within each area. The third method is household consumption quintiles. Annex B includes characteristics by these three different quintile definitions.

4.5 Sample Characterization

Table 4.2 presents the population distribution by ethnic groups in the four departments. According to the current survey, over 90 percent of the population of Sololá and Totonicapán is Native Mayan, a result that coincides with the CENSUS-94. In the case of Quetzaltenango, the CENSUS-94 estimated a Native population of 60 percent, while according to ENGAS-97 it was 35 percent. This difference may be explained by the use of different definitions of Native origin, or by migration occurring in the time elapsed between the surveys.

Table 4.2 Population Distribution, by Ethnic Group and Department (%)

		Department				
	Quetzaltenango	San Marcos	Sololá	Totonicapán	Total	
Population						
Native	35.3	37.5	90.9	97.7	54.8	
Ladino	63.5	62.4	8.6	1.8	45.1	
No data	1.2	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.1	
Total	26.9	42.1	13.6	17.3	100.0	

The proportionately greater representation of the Native population in the lower quintiles (Table 4.3) indicates that this ethnic group is considerably poorer, or features significant lower consumption levels, than the Ladino group. In contrast, Quetzaltenango, which is predominantly Ladino, has a greater share of its population in the two highest quintiles.

Table 4.3 Distribution of Sample, by Quintile, Ethnic Group, and Department (%)

	Quintile					
	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Population						
Native	73.0	66.0	62.8	42.6	28.1	54.7
Ladino	27.0	34.0	37.2	57.4	71.9	45.3
Department						
Quetzaltenango	10.0	16.0	16.9	24.1	32.9	100.0
San Marcos	21.0	19.9	21.0	21.1	17.1	100.0
Sololá	29.5	23.8	19.8	14.3	12.6	100.0
Totonicapán	27.7	24.3	23.4	14.9	9.7	100.0
Total	20.4	20.2	20.2	19.9	19.4	100.0

4. Household Survey

05. Survey Results

This section presents main survey results divided into eight subsections: household consumption and its distribution; health problem perception over last 15 days; days inactive due to illness; health care—seeking behavior (last 15 days and annually); utilization of hospital services over the last 12 months; deliveries; consumption of medicines in the last 15 days; and health spending in the last year. Annexes noted in each subsection contain additional information.

As Figure 5.1 shows, about one-quarter of all those interviewed reported the occurrence of a health problem during the four-week period preceding the survey, and over three-quarters of them sought some form of health care. Self-medication was the most frequent form of care; 80 percent of all those seeking help choose this option. Only one out of six persons looking for care went to an ambulatory care health facility, while fewer than 5 percent obtained other services. The following sections provide further details about health care-seeking patterns.

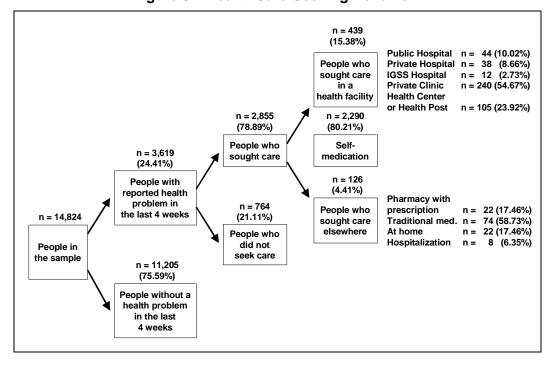


Figure 5.1 Health Care-Seeking Behavior

5.1 Household Consumption

Figure 5.2 presents information on per capita household consumption with consumption quintiles being defined over the entire sample (see also Annex C). In urban areas, annual per capita household consumption in the highest quintile (US\$926) is 5.7 times that of the first quintile (US\$160). Average per capita household consumption for the entire sample is US\$360 an amount well below Guatemala's per capita GNP of US\$1,340 in 1995 as reported by the *World Development Report 1997*. Although consumption and income need not coincide, they should not differ significantly. The large gap between per capita GNP and per capita household consumption, as measured by ENGAS-97, may be attributable to the fact that the four departments of this survey with their large Mayan populations are significantly poorer than the average department of Guatemala.

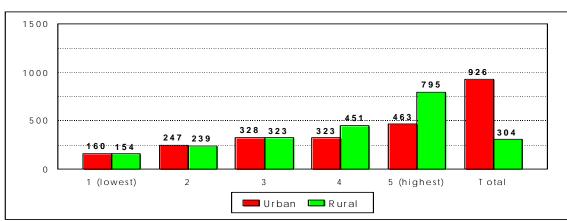


Figure 5.2 Average Annual Per Capita Household Consumption, by Area and Quintile*

*Quintiles defined based on total sample.

Figure 5.3 also shows per capita household consumption, with quintiles constructed separately for urban and rural households. The per capita consumption in each quintile in the urban area is almost twice the amount as rural settings, showing that the population in urban areas is much richer than its rural counterpart.

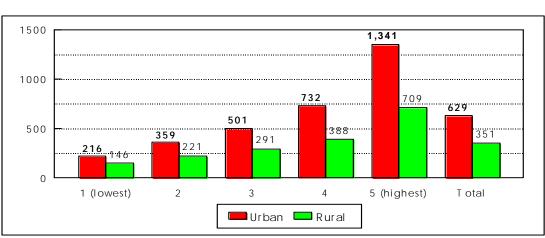


Figure 5.3 Average Annual Per Capital Household Consumption, by Area and Quintile*

*Quintiles defined separately for urban and rural samples.

Figure 5.4 shows that although the Ladino population tends to have higher consumption levels than the Native population in all quintiles, the differences are not very significant.

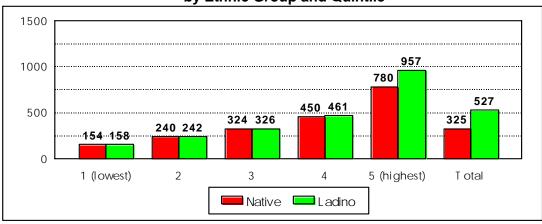


Figure 5.4 Average Annual Per Capita Household Consumption, by Ethnic Group and Quintile*

*Quintiles defined based on total sample.

Figures 5.5 through 5.7 show the distribution of total consumption among quintiles, or what fraction of total consumption is accounted for by each quintile. Thus, the sum of the bars equals 100 percent. The distribution of consumption among quintiles is clearly inequitable in urban areas, when quintiles are defined over the entire sample (Figure 5.5). A quintile's share of total consumption increases with the consumption level, with the highest quintile capturing almost 60 percent of total consumption. The situation of rural households differs, however, because there are few high income families in rural areas. Nevertheless, when quintiles are constructed separately for urban and rural areas, the distribution of total consumption among quintiles seems less inequitable (Figure 5.6). The inequities are slightly less pronounced in the rural setting.

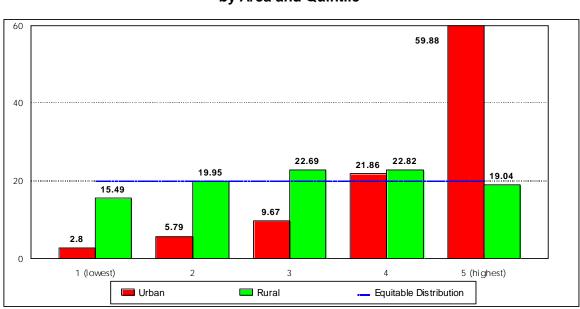


Figure 5.5 Distribution of Annual Per Capita Household Consumption, by Area and Quintile*

*Quintiles constructed over the entire sample.

60 42.3 40.31 Per centage 40 23.43 22.11 20 11.42 12.6 8.35 6.9 0 1 (lowest) 2 3 4 5 (highest) Quintile Urban Rural Equitable Distribution

Figure 5.6 Distribution of Annual Per Capita Household Consumption, by Area and Quintile*

*Quintiles constructed separately for urban and rural households

Finally, Figure 5.7 presents the distribution of consumption among ethnic groups, with consumption quintiles being defined over the entire sample. Clearly, consumption is heavily skewed among Ladinos—with high income Ladino families accounting for almost 60 percent of all consumption in the Ladino group—and rather flat among the Mayans.

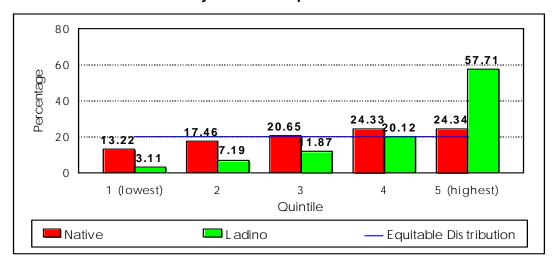


Figure 5.7 Distribution of Annual Per Capita Household Consumption, by Ethnic Group and Quintile

In this section household consumption quintiles have been defined in two ways: (1) over the entire sample and (2) seperately for urban and rural areas. In the remainder of this paper, household consumption quintiles are defined over the entire sample.

5.2 Health Problem Perception

To study the health care seeking behavior this analysis first looks at illness reporting patterns measured by self-perception of health problem over a four-week recall period.

Self-perception of illness or injury is higher in the rural settings than in the urban areas. Overall, one out of four people in the rural areas perceived a health problem in the last month; among urban inhabitants, this proportion was one out of five. In the rural area self-perception of illness showed no relationship with income. In the urban area, the perception of health problems seemed to decrease slightly with income in the urban area.

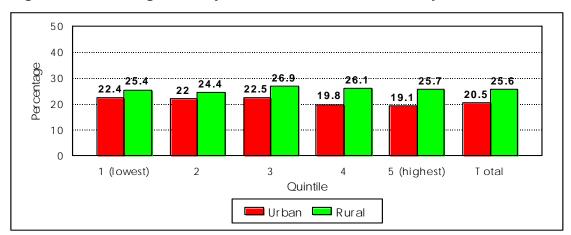


Figure 5.8 Percentage III or Injured in the Last Four Weeks, by Area and Quintile

Figure 5.9 presents health problem perception by age range. A u-shape curve emerges indicating that the elder and the younger population groups have a higher perception of (and incidence) of health problems than other population groups. This is a common finding from surveys of this kind. About 26 percent of the Native populaiton perceived a health problem while 22 percent of Ladinos did so. Yet, as is shown later in section 5.10, the joint probability of perceiving a health problem, seeking care, and paying for care is the same among Natives and Ladinos (15 percent).

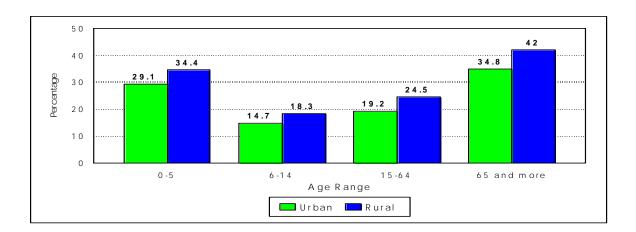


Figure 5.9 Percentage III or Injured in the Last Four Weeks, by Area and Age Range

5.3 Days Inactive Due to Illness

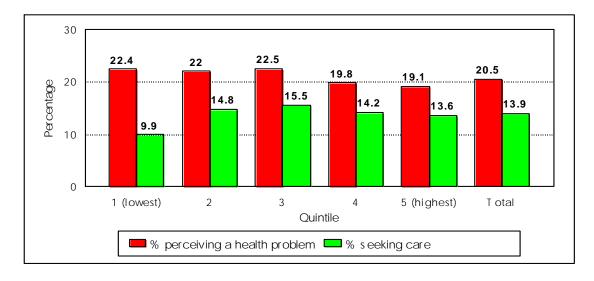
The number of days inactive due to ill health⁶ is a measure of the burden of disease. Annex E has more detailed data on the probability of missing regular activities and the average number of days spent inactive. One out of four people who get sick has to miss his or her regular activities, a proportion that remains stable across areas and quintiles. Nevertheless, when examining this indicator by age range, children between 6 and 14 more often miss their activities than the rest of the population.

5.4 Health Care-Seeking Behavior

This section examines the demand for health care by analyzing the actions taken by those who perceive a health problem.

In the urban setting about two-thirds of those ill or injured sought care, while six in 10 did so in the rural area (Figures 5.10 and 5.11). This could partially be explained by the difference in accessibility between areas (Annex F) access to health care providers being better in urban areas. Furthermore, the number of those seeking care increased with consumption level, which may be attributable to two separate phenomena: First, higher income individuals, who tend to be more educated that the poor, are known to have a better ability to seek care accordingly. Second, the better-off have a greater ability to pay for care, and therfore face fewer financial barriers to access than the poor.

Figure 5.10 Percentage of III or Injured in the Past Four Weeks and Percentage Seeking Care in the Urban Area, by Quintile



⁶ Calculated only for the population over 6 years of age

30 25.7 25.6 25.4 26.9. 24.4 26.1 Percentage 20 17.6 16.2 15.7 14.5 13.8 12.5 10 0 1 (lowest) 2 3 5 (highest) T otal Quintile

■ % perceiving a health problem 🔲 % s eeking care

Figure 5.11 Percentage III or Injured in the Past Four Weeks and Percentage Seeking Care in Rural Area, by Quintile

As already mentioned, Sololá has a predominantly poor Native population of which 36.2 percent self-reported an illness or injury (Figure 5.12) in the last four weeks, while Quetzaltenango, which has richer Ladino population, only has one-third of the problems presented in Sololá. This suggests the existence of an inverse relationship between health problem perception and income, while health care seeking behavior increases with income.

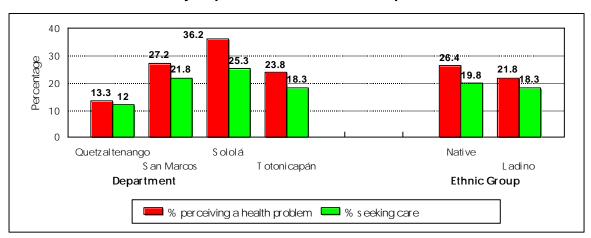


Figure 5.12 Percentage Perceiving a Health Problem and Percentage Seeking Care, by Department and Ethnic Group

Figure 5.13 shows what actions were taken among those who perceived a health problem and sought care. Four out of five of those ill or injured chose self-medication as the first therapeutic action. Self-medication was higher in the lowest quintiles and among the Native population. That very few individuals with a self-perceived health problem chose to go to a health facility could be explained by a widespread limited physical access to health facilities.

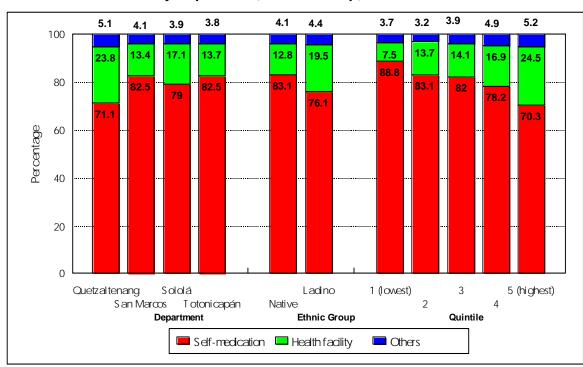


Figure 5.13 Therapeutic Actions Among Those Who Sought Care, by Department, Ethnic Group, and Quintile

5.5 Choice of Provider

Another aspect of demand is the type of provider chosen. Once a person perceives a health problem and decides to seek care from a health facility, he or she must decide which provider to select. In general, 32 percent of the people sought care from a public provider, while another 60 percent did so in the private subsector. The preference for private providers increased with income. More people in poor rural settings chose private providers, this could be a problem with the availability of public providers in the rural area. For more detailed information see Annex G.

The percentage of those who were seen by a doctor (either in a health facility or at home) increased with household consumption both in the urban area and in the rural settings. It is important to note that in the case of the lowest quintile in the urban area only one—third saw a doctor.

5.6 Utilization of Hospital Services

Almost three-fourths (72 percent, Table 5.1) of all those seeking care from a health facility in the month preceding the survey selected a hospital (public and private). Such a high percentage of ambulatory health care being delivered in inpatient facilities is uncommon, and may be the result of a highly deficient ambulatory care market in these four Guatemalan departments, likely combined with a cultural belief that hospital-based care is superior to that delivered in outpatient facilities.

Use of hospital care for ambulatory purposes was significantly greater among urban households, a finding that may be explained by the generally urban location of public and private

hospitals, and therefore the greater physical accessibility of urban households to this kind of facility. Utilization of hospital services was also more common among higher-consumption households. This fact may reflect these households' relatively greater ability to pay out-of-pocket for the more expensive hospital care, in contrast with poorer households.

Table 5.1 Hospital Care Utilization in the Past Four Weeks, by Area and Quintile (Percent)

		Quintile					
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total	
Urban	21.72	73.75	87.46	81.42	91.03	83.58	
Rural	45.65	48.55	72.72	77.95	85.28	66.43	
Total	43.49	55.16	75.77	79.27	88.75	72.31	

5.7 Prenatal Care and Immunizations

About 85 percent of all pregnant women received prenatal care in the past year (Figure 5.14), a percentage that is high in all quintiles. When the first prenatal visit took place, and how many visits were made, varied with household's consumption in the woman's home (not shown). Thus, women from low-consumption households tended to make their first pre-natal visit when further along into their pregnancy, and they made fewer total visits than women with greater means.

Figure 5.14 Percentage of Women Who Received Prenatal Care, by Area and Quintile

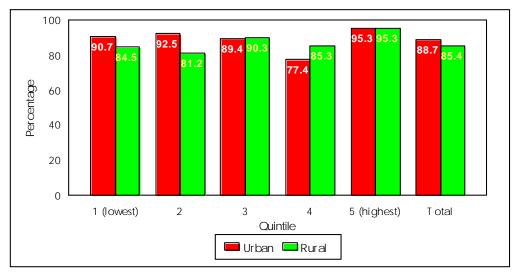


Table 5.2 shows immunization coverage for BCG, polio, DPT and measles among children under 18 months. Compliance with the immunization program is low, as only one out of four children under 18 months received all immunizations.

Table 5.2 Immunization Coverage of Children under 18 Months Who Presented an Immunization Identification Card, by Age Group

	Age in months				
	Under 2	2-4	4-6	6-12	12-18
Children with all immunizations (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.6	25.3
Children under 18 months who received the					
following immunizations (%)					
BCG	11.2	32.4	43.6	67.0	73.8
ANTIPOLIO					
At birth	34.1	48.1	41.6	57.8	51.8
2 months	16.9	29.2	59.4	80.0	82.9
4 months	1.2	4.8	30.2	54.8	69.9
6 months	1.2	1.5	8.8	33.4	57.8
DPT					
2 months	7.9	17.4	53.9	75.2	79.7
4 months	1.2	2.7	26.2	52.1	67.8
6 months	1.2	0.0	7.8	32.1	54.8
MEASLES	1.2	0.0	3.0	24.3	61.6

5.8 Deliveries

Only one out of five pregnant women chose to deliver their babies in a health facility—a very low percentage that may explain the high maternal mortality indices of Guatemala—and 82 percent of them went to a public hospital for their delivery. Two-thirds of all pregnant women had their deliveries at home with the assistance of a midwife. Use of facility-based care was greater among women from higher spending households (Table J.1).

5.9 Consumption of Medicines

A little over half of those persons with a health problem (Table K.2, Annex K), and more than three-fourths of those seeking care (Figure 5.3) bought medicines at a pharmacy with or without a prescription. Surprisingly, the probability that a patient received medicines at the facility where the medications were prescribed was higher in rural than in urban areas, a result that remained stable among households of all spending levels.

5.10 Health Spending

Table 5.3 presents information on monthly out-of-pocket spending on curative care for the entire sample, as well as for different subsets of individuals. Four measurements of out-of-pocket spending on curative health care are presented under the heading "Average expected expenditure." The first measure, "All persons," is the expected monthly expenditure of the average individual, including those who experience a health problem and those who do not. It equals US\$1.12, being higher for a Ladino person (US\$1.74) and lower for a Native person (US\$0.62). The second measure is the expected monthly expenditure of the individual who has an acute health problem. This measure is obviously higher than the preceding one, because it only considers those who are ill or injured. The expected monthly expenditure among this more restricted group is US\$4.81, or about four times as much as the expected expenditure of an average individual. The multiple of four reflects the probability of illness or injury, which is about 25 percent. Again, and as expected, this measure is much higher among Ladinos (US\$8.36) than Natives (US\$2.47). The third measure is expected spending by those with a health problem who

sought health care, while the fourth is expected expenditure by those who sought care and paid for the services received. Also as expected, and from the way these costs are computed by increasingly restricting the set of individuals, the third and fourth measures increase progressively and exceed the previous two. Thus a person with a health problem who seeks health care is expected to pay, on average, US\$6.09; those among this sample who actually pay out-of-pocket for the care received, spend on average US\$7.64 per episode of illness over one month.

The middle section of Table 5.3 presents out-of-pocket spending information for various types of health care, from home-made medicines to hospitalization. These expenditure data correspond to payments actually made by individuals who were ill or injured, sought care, and paid for the care received. As can be seen, for most expenditure categories, spending by the Ladino group exceeds that by the Natives. The gap is particularly large for hospital care, where the former spend on average US\$150, whereas the latter spend only US\$8.90 on average. It is worth noticing that spending on health professional fees for a visit (US\$14.50 for the sample) is similar to what people spend on medicines when they have a prescription (US\$16.43).

Table 5.3 Out-of-Pocket Spending and Time Costs of Care, by Ethnic Group

	Ethnic Group		
	Native	Ladino	Total
Persons who perceived a health problem (%)	26.4	21.8	24.4
Persons who perceived a health problem and sought care (%)	19.9	18.4	19.3
Persons who perceived a health problem and sought care and paid (%)			
Number	331.5	219.2	556.6
Percentage	15.3	15.3	15.4
Average expected expenditure (US\$)			
All persons	0.62	1.74	1.12
Persons with an acute health problem	2.47	8.36	4.81
Persons with an acute health problem and sought care	3.26	9.93	6.09
Persons with an acute health problem and sought care and paid	4.22	11.93	7.64
Average expenditure by type of care (US\$)			
Consumed home-made medicines, medicines kept at home or obtained from family or friends	0.57	0.97	0.74
Bought medicines at pharmacy without prescription	2.05	2.72	2.33
Bought medicines at pharmacy with prescription	11.07	18.41	16.43
Traditional medicine (traditional healer, midwife, etc,)	7.05	10.24	8.38
Home care	5.07	1.98	3.67
Health care in a facility	8.93	19.28	14.50
Hospitalization	8.90	187.47	150.26
Time to obtain care (minutes)			
Travel time	56	52	54
Waiting time	58	48	53

The final section of Table 5.3 shows travel time to, and waiting time at the place of care, the figure shown being an average for all sources of care (i.e., pharmacy, health facility, etc.). Travel and waiting times are similar—about one hour—with only small differences between Natives and Ladinos.

Figure 5.15 presents average annual per capita expenditure on curative ambulatory health care according to household spending quintiles. These figures correspond to the category "All persons" of Table 5.3 (times 12 months in a year), and therefore includes the entire population in the sample, adjusted by the probabilities of being ill or injured during the year (once or more), of seeking care when ill or injured, and of making out-of-pocket spending for the care received. In both urban and rural areas expenditure tends to increase with household consumption, reflecting both the greater cultural, physical, and economic access to care by those living in better off households. Also, and for similar reasons, income is higher in the urban settings than in the rural area.

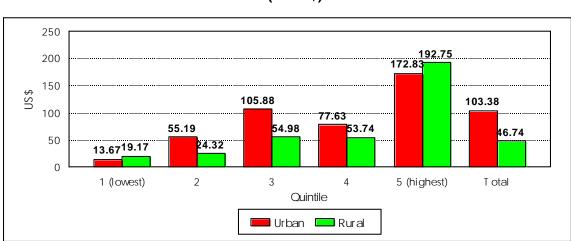
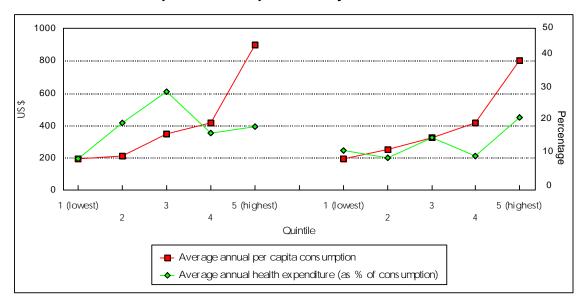


Figure 5.15 Average Annual Per Capita Health Expenditure, by Area and by Quintile (in US\$)

Finally, Figure 5.16 contrasts out-of-pocket health spending on curative care with total consumption at the household level, with the former being expressed as a percentage of the latter. As can be seen on the left hand-side of the figure, health spending as a percentage of household consumption follows an irregular pattern in urban areas: it is progressive for the first three quintiles, but then becomes regressive when considering the highest two quintiles. The situation is somewhat different in rural areas. Out-of-pocket spending appears to be slightly progressive, although for the lowest four quintiles it seems to be rather proportional.

Figure 5.16 Average Annual Per Capita Consumption and Average Annual Per Capita Health Expenditure by Area and Quintile



5. Survey Results 23

06. Conclusions

Income is unevenly distributed in the four departments of Guatemala where the survey took place. High income individuals who belong to consumption quintile 5 consume about 6 times as much per capita as their poorest counterparts from quintile 1. This spread is significantly more pronounced in urban than in rural areas, and somewhat sharper among Ladinos than Mayans. This paper explored, among other things, whether these differences in household socioeconomic status, as measured by per capita consumption, lead to differences in health care—seeking and spending patterns.

Differences in household consumption (as a proxy for income) do not seem to affect household members' health problem perception. Approximately one in five interviewees reported a perceived health problem over a one-month recall period. The propensity to seek care varied moderately with household consumption in rural areas, but seemed unaffected by household consumption in urban settings.

Household ability to pay for health services, as proxied by household consumption, seemed to make a difference when it came to the choice of mode of care. Whereas self-medication was highly frequent among all household groups, it was highest among the poorest households, and it declined with overall household consumption levels. This pattern signals an important difference in access to different types of care. Self-medication is the least expensive and most readily available form of treatment, and therefore is the preferred option among the poor. But, because a trained health care provider does not intervene in this therapeutic modality, self-medication is also the least appropriate form of care for many health problems. That facility-based care was so low overall (only one-fourth of ill or injured high-consumption household members sought care form a health facility) suggests that health care facilities have restricted physical access or offer services that are relatively expensive.

Whereas differences in illness or injury perception and in provider choice are not dramatic among household groups, differences in out-of-pocket spending are large. This suggest that whereas poor and non-poor individuals may exhibit similar patterns of provider choice, the quality of the providers seen within each provider category may vary positively according to ability to pay. Thus, individuals in quintile 5 spend annually almost 14 times more on health care than those in the bottom quintile. And Ladinos spend almost three times as much on health care than the Mayans.

The latter finding, combined with the knowledge that the health problems of the poor tend to be more severe than those occurring among the rich, indicates that curative health care is highly inequitable in delivery. Inequities in financing are less pronounced and are less important from a health policy viewpoint.

Health care delivery is therefore highly inequitable in the four Guatemalan departments studied. A deficient public health care system is likely to be at the base of this problem. Closing

6. Conclusions 25

equity gaps in delivery, and also in financing, requires increased public health spending, either directly in government health facilities, or indirectly in income subsidies for the poor.					

Annex A. Universe and Sample

A. Universe and Sample

Table A.1 Population of Four Selected Departments, by Sex, Ethnic Group and Area

	Department					
	Quetzaltenango	San Marcos	Sololá	Totonicapán	Total	
Total population	503857	645418	222094	272094	1643643	
Male	248162	323323	110618	132670	814773	
Female	255695	322095	111476	139424	828690	
Urban	200727	83890	73856	29188	387661	
Rural	303130	561528	148238	242906	1255802	
Native	300115	274098	207927	257123	1039263	
Ladino	194048	355376	10576	8174	568170	
No data	9694	15944	3595	6797	36030	

Source: 1994 Census

Table A.2 Household Survey Questionnaire Contents

Section	Content
Characterization of household members and health problem perception	Name, age, sex activity, education and each members' relationship with the head of the household
	Health problem perception in a 4-week recall period. Hospitalization in the past year. Identification of women at fertile age over 15 and children under 3
Household expenditure	Household expenditures on consumption and investment goods in the past 7, 30 and 180 days.
Health care services in the past four weeks	Health problem description; days inactive due to illness or injury; self-medication; search for care outside the household; choice of provider; care received; out-of-pocket payments; and travel and waiting times to receive care. As well as search of preventive care.
Hospital services	Hospital used; period of time hospitalized; out-of-pocket payments; and, travel and waiting times to receive care.
Obstetric services	Among deliveries since January 1995 the following aspects were evaluated: prenatal care; choice of provider; out-of-pocket payments and travel and waiting times to receive care. Also family planning methods and awareness for women between 15 and 49 years.
Immunization of children under 3	Immunizations included or not on the immunizations card.

Annex B. Sample Characterization

Table B.1 Sex Distribution, by Quintile

				Quintile	•		
		1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total
Household o	onsumption quintile						
Male	row %	14.46	18.69	21.53	22.49	22.83	100
	column %	48.03	46.84	49.26	49.04	49.3	48.57
Female	row %	14.78	20.03	20.95	22.07	22.17	100
	column %	51.97	53.16	50.74	50.96	50.7	51.43
Total	row %	14.63	19.38	21.23	22.27	22.49	100
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100
Per capita co	onsumption quintile						
Male	row %	26.02	21.93	20.14	17.95	13.96	100
	column %	49.08	47.5	48.51	48.89	49.02	48.57
Female	row %	25.49	22.89	20.19	17.72	13.72	100
	column %	50.92	52.5	51.49	51.11	50.98	51.43
Total	row %	25.75	22.42	20.17	17.83	13.84	100
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table B.2 Percentage of People in the Household Who Know How to Read, by Quintile

	_			Quintile)		
		1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total
Household cons	sumption quintile						
Yes	row %	10.29	16.29	19.29	23.75	30.37	100
	column %	45.99	54.45	59.42	67.16	80.83	63.41
No	row %	20.97	23.68	22.85	20.2	12.3	100
	column %	53.4	45.12	40.11	32.56	18.65	36.14
Does not know	row %	36.98	25.89	12.8	0	24.32	100
	column %	0.24	0.12	0.06	0	0.09	0.09
Other	row %	14.71	16	23.94	17.12	28.23	100
	column %	0.37	0.3	0.41	0.27	0.42	0.36
Total	row %	14.19	18.97	20.59	22.42	23.82	100
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100
Per capita consi	umption quintile						
Yes	row %	19.79	19.77	20.05	20.54	19.85	100
	column %	51.62	57.24	63.89	70.2	82.05	63.41
No	row %	32.18	25.51	19.66	15.09	7.56	100
	column %	47.85	42.11	35.71	29.38	17.81	36.14
Does not know	row %	51.5	24.18	6.47	6.47	11.37	100
	column %	0.19	0.1	0.03	0.03	0.07	0.09
Other	row %	22.73	33.19	20.78	20.05	3.25	100
	column %	0.33	0.54	0.37	0.39	0.08	0.36
Total	row %	24.31	21.9	19.9	18.56	15.34	100
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table B.3 Sample Age Composition, by Quintile

				Quintile	•		
		1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total
Household con	sumption quintile						
0-5	row %	16.41	21.05	23.84	21.64	17.06	100
	column %	22.1	21.4	22.13	19.15	14.94	19.7
6-14	row %	13.66	19.38	21.34	23.23	22.4	100
	column %	25.84	27.67	27.82	28.86	27.57	27.68
15-64	row %	13.15	18.44	20.39	22.69	25.33	100
	column %	43.01	45.53	45.95	48.74	53.9	47.85
65 and more	row %	27.76	21.92	18.25	15.15	16.92	100
	column %	9.05	5.39	4.1	3.24	3.59	4.77
Total	row %	14.63	19.38	21.23	22.27	22.49	100
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100
Per capita cons	sumption quintile						
0-5	row %	31.62	24.56	21.25	14.87	7.7	100
	column %	24.2	21.58	20.77	16.43	10.97	19.7
6-14	row %	29.86	23.39	19.72	16.86	10.17	100
	column %	32.1	28.88	27.06	26.16	20.34	27.68
15-64	row %	21.47	21.11	20.37	19.04	18.02	100
	column %	39.9	45.05	48.33	51.08	62.31	47.85
65 and more	row %	20.53	21.09	16.25	23.62	18.52	100
	column %	3.8	4.49	3.84	6.32	6.38	4.77
Total	row %	25.75	22.42	20.17	17.83	13.84	100
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table B.4 Average Number of Household Members, by Area and Quintile

			Quintile			
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total
Household consumption quintile						
Urban	4.6	5.5	6.12	6.45	7.01	6.47
Rural	5.32	6.61	7.23	7.64	8.69	7.07
Total	5.23	6.52	7.04	7.38	7.83	6.93
Per capita consumption quintile						
Urban	8.08	7.49	7.06	6.66	5.25	6.47
Rural	8.34	7.38	6.68	5.85	4.33	7.07
Total	8.32	7.4	6.75	6.13	4.88	6.93

Note: It represents the average number of people per area.

Figure B.1 Average Number of Household Members, by Area and Quintile

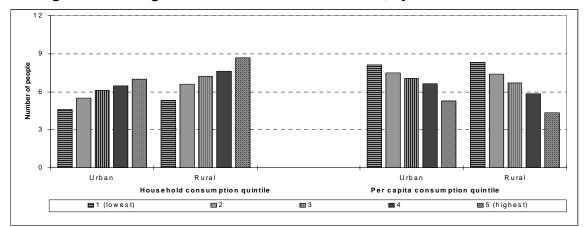


Table B.5 Household Distribution, by Area and Quintile

				Quintile			
	_	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total
Household	consumption quintile						
Urban	row %	7.39	7.07	15.84	20.47	49.23	100
	column %	11.76	8.49	17.36	21.39	50.93	23.27
Rural	row %	16.82	23.12	22.86	22.82	14.38	100
	column %	88.24	91.51	82.64	78.61	49.07	76.73
Total	row %	14.63	19.38	21.23	22.27	22.49	100
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100
Per capita o	consumption quintile						
Urban	row %	9.59	12.86	16.18	25.89	35.48	100
	column %	8.67	13.35	18.67	33.78	59.66	23.27
Rural	row %	30.65	25.32	21.37	15.39	7.27	100
	column %	91.33	86.65	81.33	66.22	40.34	76.73
Total	row %	25.75	22.42	20.17	17.83	13.84	100
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table B.6 Age Range Distribution, by Ethnic Group

	Ethnic Group				
	Native	Ladino	Total		
0-5	20.39	18.65	19.61		
6-14	28.43	26.59	27.61		
15-64	46.51	49.76	47.96		
65 and more	4.67	5	4.82		
Total	100	100	100		

Table B.7 Area Distribution, by Ethnic Group

	Ethnic g	Ethnic groupG			
	Native	Ladino	Total		
Urban					
row %	41.76	58.24	100		
column %	17.73	30.83	23.56		
Rural					
row %	59.74	40.26	100		
column %	82.27	69.17	76.44		
Total					
row %	55.5	44.5	100		
column %	100	100	100		

Table B.8 First Action Distribution, by Ethnic Group

	E		
	Native	Ladino	Total
Home made medicines	19.12	15	17.37
Medicines at home	6.22	9.47	7.6
Medicines from family	0.96	1.38	1.14
Bought medicines at pharmacy without prescription	56.76	49.98	53.89
Bought medicines at pharmacy with prescription	0.33	1.38	0.77
Home of healer, doctor or midwife	3	2.09	2.62
Received care at home	0.74	0.87	0.79
Health facility	12.71	18.96	15.35
Hospitalized	0.12	0.51	0.29
Other	0.04	0.36	0.17
Total	100	100	100

Annex C. Household and Per Capita Consumption

Table C.1 Average Annual Household Consumption

			Quintile						
		1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total		
Per capita o	consumption quintile								
Urban	Quetzales	7546.56	10712.81	13323.8	17956.04	27170.91	18545.79		
	US\$	1301.13	1847.04	2297.21	3095.87	4684.64	3197.55		
Rural	Quetzales	7346.09	10227.29	12439.28	15248.77	19216.02	11243.51		
	US\$	1266.57	1763.33	2144.7	2629.1	3313.11	1938.54		
Total	Quetzales	7363.46	10292.09	12604.45	16163.26	23962.28	12942.57		
	US\$	1269.56	1774.5	2173.18	2786.77	4131.43	2231.48		
Household	consumption quintile								
Urban	Quetzales	4799.45	7743.13	10117.08	13857.85	26822.41	18545.79		
	US\$	827.49	1335.02	1744.32	2389.28	4624.55	3197.55		
Rural	Quetzales	4853.08	7636.73	10174.45	13629	22428.52	11243.51		
	US\$	836.74	1316.68	1754.22	2349.83	3866.99	1938.54		
Total	Quetzales	4846.77	7645.76	10164.5	13677.95	24666.23	12942.57		
	US\$	835.65	1318.23	1752.5	2358.27	4252.8	2231.48		
Urban per d	capita consumption qu	intile					_		
Urban	Quetzales	8260.58	12045.04	16262.1	20484.16	28154.71	17023.16		
	US\$	1424.24	2076.73	2803.81	3531.75	4854.26	2935.03		
Rural per ca	apita consumption qui	ntile	_						
Rural	Quetzales	6400.71	8480	10032.97	11594.24	15102.14	10318.96		
	US\$	1103.57	1462.07	1729.82	1999.01	2603.82	1779.13		

Table C.2 Total Annual Household Consumption Distribution, by Quintile

			Quintile							
		1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total			
Per capita o	consumption quintile									
Urban	row %	3.9	7.43	11.63	25.06	51.98	100			
	column %	8.88	13.89	19.74	37.53	67.65	33.34			
Rural	row %	20.02	23.03	23.65	20.87	12.43	100			
	column %	91.12	86.11	80.26	62.47	32.35	66.66			
Total	row %	14.65	17.83	19.64	22.27	25.62	100			
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100			
Household	consumption quintile									
Urban	row %	1.91	2.95	8.64	15.3	71.2	100			
	column %	11.64	8.59	17.28	21.67	55.38	33.34			
Rural	row %	7.26	15.7	20.69	27.66	28.69	100			
	column %	88.36	91.41	82.72	78.33	44.62	66.66			
Total	row %	5.48	11.45	16.67	23.54	42.86	100			
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100			

Table C.3 Average Annual per Capita Household Consumption, by Area and Quintile

Total
3180.71
548.4
1762
303.79
2092.1
360.71
3180.71
548.4
1762
303.79
2092.1
360.71
3645.98
628.62
2033.9
350.67

Table C.4 Annual per Capita Consumption Distribution

			Quintile							
		1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total			
					Per ca	pita consumpt	ion quintile			
Urban	row %	2.8	5.79	9.67	21.86	59.88	100			
	column %	9	13.71	18.92	34.39	63.25	35.37			
Rural	row %	15.49	19.95	22.69	22.82	19.04	100			
	column %	91	86.29	81.08	65.61	36.75	64.63			
Total	row %	11	14.94	18.09	22.48	33.49	100			
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100			
Household o	consumption quintil	е								
Urban	row %	3.11	3.8	9.89	16.07	67.13	100			
	column %	13.99	10.51	20.55	25.05	59.92	35.37			
Rural	row %	10.46	17.71	20.94	26.31	24.58	100			
	column %	86.01	89.89	79.45	74.95	40.08	64.63			
Total	row %	7.86	12.79	17.03	22.69	39.63	100			
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100			
Urban per ca	apita consumption o	quintile								
Urban	row %	6.9	11.42	15.95	23.43	42.3	100			
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100			
Rural per ca	pita consumption q	uintile								
Rural	row %	8.35	12.6	16.63	22.11	40.31	100			
	column %	100	100	100	100	100	100			

Annex D. Illness and Injury Incidence

Table D.1 Percent III or Injured in the Past Four Weeks, by Area. Age Range and Quintile

		by Aica, I	age italige a	and wantine					
	Quintile								
		1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total		
	Urban								
0-5		27.02	23.41	27.63	28.93	34.85	29.08		
6-14		20.7	15.88	15.68	12.17	13.37	14.65		
15-64		19.23	22.83	22.14	18.81	17.36	19.21		
65 and more		44.29	39.44	48.9	33.22	27.4	34.84		
Subtotal		22.43	22.03	22.45	19.75	19.06	20.49		
Rural									
0-5		35.36	31.88	35.62	34.43	35.1	34.37		
6-14		17.82	16.5	20.88	20.05	15.4	18.31		
15-64		24.31	24.48	24.92	24.6	24.01	24.51		
65 and more		37.29	38.54	46.84	42.76	48.56	42		
Subtotal		25.43	24.36	26.91	26.1	25.69	25.6		
Total									
0-5		34.79	30.78	34.12	32.53	34.94	33.34		
6-14		18.06	16.43	19.94	17.37	14.1	17.53		
15-64		23.82	24.25	24.39	22.68	20.09	23.14		
65 and more		38.08	38.69	47.16	39.28	39.4	40.21		
Subtotal		25.17	24.05	26.08	23.95	21.73	24.41		

Table D.2 Average Annual Number of Illness or Injury Episodes, by Area, Age Range and Quintile

	Quintile						
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total	
	Urban						
0-5	3.24	2.81	3.32	3.47	4.18	3.49	
6-14	2.48	1.91	1.88	1.46	1.6	1.76	
15-64	2.31	2.74	2.66	2.26	2.08	2.31	
65 and more	5.31	4.73	5.87	3.99	3.29	4.18	
Subtotal	2.69	2.64	2.69	2.37	2.29	2.46	
Rural							
0-5	4.24	3.83	4.27	4.13	4.21	4.12	
6-14	2.14	1.98	2.51	2.41	1.85	2.2	
15-64	2.92	2.94	2.99	2.95	2.88	2.94	
65 and more	4.47	4.62	5.62	5.13	5.83	5.04	
Subtotal	3.05	2.92	3.23	3.13	3.08	3.07	
Total							
0-5	4.17	3.69	4.09	3.9	4.19	4	
6-14	2.17	1.97	2.39	2.08	1.69	2.1	
15-64	2.86	2.91	2.93	2.72	2.41	2.78	
65 and more	4.57	4.64	5.66	4.71	4.73	4.83	
Subtotal	3.02	2.89	3.13	2.87	2.61	2.93	

Table D.3 Percent III or Injured in the past Four Weeks, by Ethnic Group (% of Total)

-	Ethnic Group					
	Native	Ladino	Total			
Perceived a health problem	26.42	21.79	24.36			
Did not perceive a health problem	73.58	78.21	75.64			
Total	100	10000	100			

Annex E. Days Inactive from Illness or Injury

Table E.1 Percentage of Those Who Missed Regular Activities Due to Illness, by Area, Age Range and Quintile

	by Alca, Age Range and Quintile								
	Quintile								
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total			
	Urban								
6-14	21.33	60.66	27.71	58.71	42.77	41.73			
15-64	27.32	24.17	20.58	24.7	21.79	23.06			
65 and more	21.39	45.39	0	7.31	13.2	15.84			
Subtotal	24.38	35.79	20.42	27.76	25.34	26.45			
Rural									
6-14	31.78	35.31	38.07	48.09	28.6	36.05			
15-64	23.74	25.3	26.52	26.57	29.14	25.77			
65 and more	15.12	21.61	23.21	23.38	14.71	19.71			
Subtotal	25.87	27.68	29.26	30.86	26.06	27.9			
Total									
6-14	30.81	38.32	36.54	50.38	37.08	37.01			
15-64	24.03	25.15	25.46	26.05	25.45	25.19			
65 and more	15.84	25.49	19.77	18.7	14.36	18.97			
Subtotal	25.73	28.74	27.78	30.03	25.72	27.61			

Table E.2 Average Number of Days Inactive Due to Illness or Injury in the past Four Weeks, by Area, Age Range and Quintile (only for people over age 6)

		Quintile						
	_	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total	
	Urban							
6-14		1.84	2.9	7.5	3.02	3.22	3.49	
15-64		13.36	7.42	3.41	6.41	4.33	6.04	
65 and more		2.5	10.5	0	5	15	9.14	
Subtotal		8.47	6.04	4.68	5.17	4.34	5.34	
Rural								
6-14		3.59	3.3	3.16	3.01	4.19	3.34	
15-64		6.88	5.47	5.72	6.88	6.56	6.23	
65 and more		3.39	4.51	9.38	7.54	7.12	6.53	
Subtotal		5.27	4.64	5.12	5.63	6.31	5.24	
Total								
6-14		3.48	3.23	3.65	3.01	3.52	3.37	
15-64		7.47	5.71	5.38	6.76	5.61	6.2	
65 and more		3.26	6.25	9.38	7.25	8.77	6.95	
Subtotal		5.54	4.87	5.07	5.51	5.38	5.26	

Table E.3 Average Annual Number of Days Inactive Due to Illness or Injury, by Age Range and Quintile (only for people over age 6)

	Quintile						
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total	
Urban							
6-14	0.97	3.35	3.91	2.59	2.21	2.56	
15-64	8.43	4.92	1.87	3.57	1.97	3.21	
65 and more	2.84	22.56	0	1.46	6.51	6.05	
Subtotal	5.56	5.71	2.58	3.4	2.51	3.47	
Rural							
6-14	2.44	2.31	3.01	3.48	2.21	2.64	
15-64	4.77	4.06	4.53	5.4	5.51	4.72	
65 and more	2.3	4.51	12.23	9.04	6.1	6.49	
Subtotal	4.16	3.75	4.84	5.44	5.07	4.49	
Total							
6-14	2.32	2.44	3.19	3.16	2.21	2.62	
15-64	5.13	4.18	4.01	4.79	3.44	4.33	
65 and more	2.36	7.4	10.49	6.39	5.95	6.36	
Subtotal	4.31	4.04	4.41	4.76	3.61	4.25	

Table E.4 Percentage of People Who Spent Days Inactive Due to Illness or Injury in the Past Four Weeks (only for people over age 6), by Ethnic Group and Activity

	Ethnic Group					
	Native	Ladino	Total			
Missed work	15.14	21.07	17.52			
Missed school	9.61	7.76	8.87			
Did not miss	72.57	62.59	68.57			
Fired	0	0.12	0.05			
Does not know	2.69	8.46	5			
Total	100	100	100			

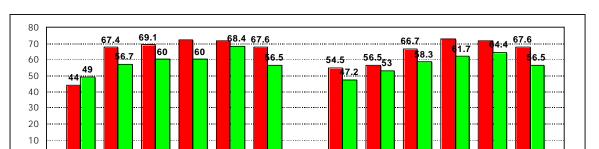
Annex F. Health Care-Seeking Behavior

Table F.1 Health Problem Perception and Search for Care, by Ethnic Group

	•	Ethnic Group	•
	Native	Ladino	Tota
Population who perceived a health problem in the last four			
weeks			
Number	2166.8	1432.5	3614.5
Percentage	26.4	21.8	24.4
Type of episode			
Accident	0.3	2.1	1
Illness	99.4	97.3	98.5
Preventive health	0.3	0.6	0.5
Action taken			
Population that sought help due to resolve a health problem	75.4	84.2	78.9
Population that did not take an action	24.2	15.2	20.6
Number of actions			
Only one action	69.5	68.3	69
Only two actions	5.9	14	9.1
Only three actions	0.1	1.8	0.8
More than three actions	0	0.2	0.1
Population that resolved the health problem with the actions taken	39	35.4	37.6

Table F.2 Search for Care Including Self-medication in the Past Four Weeks, by Area and Quintile

	Quintile						
	1	2	3	4	5	Total	
	(lowest)			((highest)		
Urban							
Did not take any action to solve health problem	22.47	22.38	14.93	16.35	11.83	16.16	
Sought care or self-medication	77.53	77.62	85.07	83.65	88.17	83.84	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Rural							
Did not take any action to solve health problem	26.03	21.94	18.67	21.11	14.93	21.79	
Sought care or self-medication	73.97	78.06	81.33	78.89	85.07	78.21	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Total							
Did not take any action to solve health problem	25.74	22	18.07	19.78	13.34	20.7	
Sought care or self-medication	74.26	78	81.93	80.22	86.66	79.3	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	



1 (lowest)

3

Hous ehold Cons umption Quintile

5 (highest)

Figure F.1 Percentage Seeking Care in the Last Four Weeks, by Area and Quintile

Table F.3 Search for Care in the Past Four Weeks, by Area and Quintile

💻 Urban 🔲 Rural

	Quintile						
	1 (highest)	2	3	4	5 (lowest)	Total	
Per capita consumption quintile							
Urban							
Did not seek care	55.99	32.63	30.9	27.95	28.51	32.36	
Sought care	44.01	67.37	69.1	72.05	71.49	67.64	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Rural							
Did not seek care	50.97	43.35	39.97	40.03	31.6	43.51	
Sought care	49.03	56.65	60.03	59.97	68.4	56.49	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Total							
Did not seek care	51.37	42.03	38.52	36.64	30.02	41.35	
Sought care	48.63	57.97	61.48	63.36	69.98	58.65	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Household consumption quintile							
Urban							
Did not seek care	45.5	43.49	33.29	27.18	28.56	32.36	
Sought care	54.5	56.51	66.71	72.82	71.44	67.64	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Rural							
Did not seek care	52.83	46.97	41.66	38.28	35.6	43.51	
Sought care	47.17	53.03	58.34	61.72	64.4	56.49	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Total							
Did not seek care	52.02	46.6	40.56	36.31	32.45	41.35	
Sought care	47.98	53.4	59.44	63.69	67.55	58.65	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	

1 (lowest)

4

Per Capita Consumption Quintile

Table F.4 Search for Care in the Past Four Weeks, by Area and Ethnic Group

	Ethnic Group					
	Native	Ladino	Total			
Urban						
Did not seek care	36.24	30.18	32.8			
Sought care	63.76	69.82	67.2			
Subtotal	100	100	100			
Rural						
Did not seek care	45.51	39.85	43.5			
Sought care	54.49	60.15	56.5			
Subtotal	100	100	100			
Total						
Did not seek care	44.22	37.16	41.42			
Sought care	55.78	62.84	58.58			
Subtotal	100	100	100			

Table F.5 Average Number of Actions Taken by Each Individual III or Injured in the Past Four Weeks, by Area and Quintile

		· ·	Quintile			
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total
Urban						
1	93.15	80.25	84.96	76.31	76.19	80.04
2	6.85	17.85	12.49	20.97	21.61	17.82
3	0	1.9	2.55	2.28	2.19	2.02
4	0	0	0	0.44	0	0.11
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100
Rural						
1	91.33	90.69	88.59	87.82	82.36	89.26
2	8.67	8.32	10.6	10.58	16.05	9.93
3	0	0.99	0.27	1.6	1.59	0.68
4	0	0	0.27	0	0	0.06
5	0	0	0.27	0	0	0.06
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100
Total						
1	91.48	89.42	87.99	84.46	79.14	87.37
2	8.52	9.48	10.92	13.61	18.95	11.55
3	0	1.1	0.65	1.8	1.91	0.96
4	0	0	0.22	0.13	0	0.07
5	0	0	0.22	0	0	0.05
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table F.6 Average Number of Actions Taken by Each Individual III or Injured in the Past Four Weeks, by Area and Ethnic Group

		Ethnic Group	
	Native	Ladino	Total
Urban			
1	87.24	75.37	80.17
2	11.67	21.81	17.71
3	0.81	2.82	2.01
4	0.28	0	0.11
Subtotal	100	100	100
Rural			
1	92.88	83.4	89.29
2	7.12	14.48	9.91
3	0	1.8	0.68
4	0	0.17	0.06
5	0	0.17	0.06
Subtotal	100	100	100
Total			
1	92.07	81.08	87.41
2	7.77	16.6	11.51
3	0.12	2.09	0.95
4	0.04	0.12	0.07
5	0	0.12	0.05
Subtotal	100	100	100

Annex G. Choice of Provider

Table G.1 Distribution of Choice of Provider of Those Whose First Action was to Seek Care in a Health Facility, by Area and Quintile

	Quintile							
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total		
Urban								
Public	75.48	38.52	29.05	34.29	10.82	24.41		
IGSS	0	0	7.72	0	7.91	4.77		
Private	24.52	61.48	63.23	58.9	77.36	67.19		
Others	0	0	0	6.81	3.91	3.62		
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100		
Rural								
Public	47.61	52.92	30.08	33.35	21.1	36.11		
IGSS	2.23	1.79	0.91	3.42	2.92	2.2		
Private	40.33	37.47	66.98	58.54	74.51	56.73		
Others	9.82	7.83	2.02	4.69	1.46	4.95		
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100		
Total								
Public	50.11	48.92	29.87	33.71	14.86	32.04		
IGSS	2.03	1.29	2.31	2.12	5.95	3.1		
Private	38.91	44.14	66.21	58.68	76.24	60.38		
Others	8.94	5.65	1.6	5.49	2.95	4.49		
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100		

Table G.2 Distribution of Choice of Provider of Those Whose First Action was to Seek
Care in a Health Facility, by Area and Age Range

	Age Range						
	0-5	6-14	15-64	65 and more	Total		
Urban							
Public	22.89	27.64	24.58	22.21	24.29		
IGSS	1.72	0	8.61	0	4.75		
Private	75.39	59.13	65.05	66.18	67.36		
Others	0	13.22	1.77	11.61	3.61		
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100		
Rural							
Public	37.73	55.48	31.14	32.77	36.11		
IGSS	0.86	0	3.75	1.69	2.2		
Private	54.86	42.28	60.03	61.84	56.73		
Others	6.54	2.24	5.08	3.7	4.95		
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100		
Total							
Public	32.42	45.08	28.74	30.22	31.98		
IGSS	1.17	0	5.53	1.28	3.09		
Private	62.21	48.58	61.87	62.89	60.45		
Others	4.2	6.34	3.87	5.62	4.48		
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100		

Table G.3 Percent of People Who Were Seen by a Doctor, by Area and Quintile

	Quintile						
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total	
Urban	33.13	73.84	92.57	98.2	95.55	90.99	
Rural	56.06	64.67	77.54	82.7	85.51	73.01	
Total	54.08	67.11	80.5	88.81	91.66	79.21	

Note: The percentage is calculated over those whose first action was to seek care in: a) a health facility; b) professional care at home.

Annex H. Utilization of Hospital Services

Table H.1 Hospital Care Utilization in the past Four Weeks, by Area and Quintile

	Quintile						
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total	
Urban	21.72	73.75	87.46	81.42	91.03	83.58	
Rural	45.65	48.55	72.72	77.95	85.28	66.43	
Total	43.49	55.16	75.77	79.27	88.75	72.31	

Annex I. Prenatal Care and Immunizations

Table I.1 Average Number of Immunizations Doses, by Age Range and Quintile

	Quintile							
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total		
Urban								
0	4.2	3.16	2.75	3.21	4.96	3.62		
1	6.29	6.93	6.22	7.41	7.23	6.99		
2	6.23	6.99	6.72	7.96	7.68	7.32		
Subtotal	5.07	5.28	4.82	6.32	6.66	5.79		
Rural								
0	2.69	2.74	3.45	3.48	2.22	2.94		
1	5.94	6.09	6.08	5.89	7.35	6.03		
2	6.59	6.62	6.7	7.23	6.49	6.7		
Subtotal	5.03	5.05	5.43	5.56	5.18	5.2		
Total								
0	2.81	2.81	3.29	3.4	3.89	3.08		
1	5.96	6.19	6.1	6.37	7.26	6.21		
2	6.57	6.67	6.7	7.47	7.19	6.81		
Subtotal	5.04	5.08	5.33	5.8	6.13	5.31		

Table I.2 Percentage of Women Between Ages 15-49 Who Received Prenatal Care, by Area and Quintile

			Quintile	}		
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total
Urban						
Received prenatal care	90.74	92.53	89.4	77.4	95.28	88.72
Did not receive prenatal care	9.26	7.47	10.6	22.6	4.72	11.28
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100
Rural						
Received prenatal care	84.47	81.19	90.29	85.27	95.29	85.35
Did not receive prenatal care	15.53	18.81	9.71	14.73	4.71	14.65
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100
Total						
Received prenatal care	84.88	82.7	90.14	82.83	95.28	85.98
Did not receive prenatal care	15.12	17.3	9.86	17.17	4.72	14.02
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100

Annex J. Deliveries

Table J.1 Deliveries, by Choice of Provider and Quintile

-	Quintile						
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total	
Urban							
Public Hospital	9.47	22.88	30.84	51.55	54.59	39.1	
Health Center	3.11	0	0	0	0	0.34	
Health Post	0	0	0	0	0	0	
IGSS	0	0	0	0	4.73	1.34	
Private Hospital	0	0	7.06	2.56	9.58	4.65	
Clinic	2.9	3.62	5.46	1.24	8.35	4.61	
Midwife's House	0	7.94	0	2.72	4.86	3.44	
At home with a midwife	78.52	63.75	46.17	36.5	14.4	41.29	
At home alone	3.11	0	0	2.72	0	1.02	
Others	2.9	1.81	10.47	2.72	3.48	4.22	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Rural							
Public Hospital	4.77	11.79	18.03	17.93	50.43	12.75	
Health Center	0.42	0	0.73	1.22	0	0.47	
Health Post	0.22	0	0	0	0	0.08	
IGSS	0.2	0	2.04	0	4.29	0.66	
Private Hospital	0	0.57	0.33	1.22	4.43	0.53	
Clinic	0.2	0	1.02	0.56	0	0.37	
Midwife's House	0.87	1.79	1.79	1.22	0	1.33	
At home with a midwife	77.35	74.96	69.9	73.1	40.85	73.31	
At home alone	7.16	6.03	2.74	1.22	0	4.88	
Others	8.81	4.86	3.43	3.52	0	5.62	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Total							
Public Hospital	5.08	13.26	20.11	28.36	53.17	17.7	
Health Center	0.6	0	0.61	0.84	0	0.44	
Health Post	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.06	
IGSS	0.19	0	1.71	0	4.58	0.79	
Private Hospital	0	0.5	1.43	1.64	7.83	1.3	
Clinic	0.38	0.48	1.74	0.77	5.51	1.17	
Midwife's House	0.81	2.61	1.5	1.69	3.21	1.72	
At home with a midwife	77.43	73.47	66.04	61.74	23.41	67.3	
At home alone	6.89	5.23	2.3	1.69	0	4.16	
Others	8.42	4.45	4.57	3.27	2.29	5.35	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	

Annex J. Deliveries 49

Annex K. Consumption of Medicines

Table K.1 Percent Who Bought Medicines, by Area and Quintile

	Quintile						
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total	
Urban							
Pharmacy with prescription	43.58	60.03	59.2	52.94	40.41	49.85	
Pharmacy without prescription	0	0	1.97	2.59	1.38	1.48	
Did not buy medicines	56.42	39.97	38.83	44.47	58.21	48.68	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Rural							
Pharmacy with prescription	52.61	58.69	55.59	56.45	47.52	54.98	
Pharmacy without prescription	0.11	1.26	0.6	0.4	0.71	0.6	
Did not buy medicines	47.28	40.05	43.81	43.15	51.77	44.43	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Total							
Pharmacy with prescription	51.86	58.86	56.19	55.43	43.81	53.93	
Pharmacy without prescription	0.1	1.11	0.83	1.04	1.06	0.78	
Did not buy medicines	48.04	40.04	42.98	43.53	55.13	45.3	
Subtotal	100	100	100	100	100	100	

Table K.2 Percent Who Sought Care and Who Received Medicine at the Facility Where Diagnosed, by Area and Quintile

		Quintile						
	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Total		
Urban	100	58.25	55.52	44.68	44.99	48.65		
Rural	75.52	77.3	78.45	72.85	71.98	75.55		
Total	76.62	71.07	73.7	60.88	54.36	65.4		

Annex L. Health Spending

Table L.1 Average Expenditure on Medicines in the past Four Weeks, by Area,

Type of Provider and Quintile

		Quintile					
		1 (lowest)	2	3	4 5	(highest)	Total
Urban							
Pharmacy without prescription	Quetzales	261.41	10.71	10.66	179.83	17.45	80.17
	US\$	45.07	1.85	1.84	31	3.01	13.82
Pharmacy with prescription	Quetzales	N.A.	N.A.	57.83	48.67	170.64	89.21
	US\$	N.A.	N.A.	9.97	8.39	29.42	15.38
From the provider	Quetzales	0	22.11	19.45	31.43	54.53	40.46
	US\$	0	3.81	3.35	5.42	9.4	6.98
Subtotal	Quetzales	4.82	12.97	13.21	141.5	35.9	53.16
	US\$	0.83	2.24	2.28	24.4	6.19	9.17
Rural							
Pharmacy without prescription	Quetzales	10.27	55.01	13.7	15.47	105.11	29.89
	US\$	1.77	9.49	2.36	2.67	18.12	5.15
Pharmacy with prescription	Quetzales	15	45	164.23	12	110	74.29
	US\$	2.59	7.76	28.32	2.07	18.97	12.81
From the provider	Quetzales	22.89	21.95	64.35	47.78	53.58	45.33
	US\$	3.95	3.79	11.09	8.24	9.24	7.82
Subtotal	Quetzales	11.4	51.75	22.72	20.62	87.36	31.81
	US\$	1.97	8.92	3.92	3.56	15.06	5.49
Total							
Pharmacy without prescription	Quetzales	27.94	49.47	13.16	61.27	63.39	39.38
	US\$	4.82	8.53	2.27	10.56	10.93	6.79
Pharmacy with prescription	Quetzales	15	45	122.23	38.66	151.24	80.11
	US\$	2.59	7.76	21.07	6.67	26.08	13.81
From the provider	Quetzales	22.33	22.01	55.4	41.74	54.22	43.52
	US\$	3.85	3.79	9.55	7.2	9.35	7.5
Subtotal	Quetzales	10.94	46.3	21.01	56.28	60.08	36.44
	US\$	1.89	7.98	3.62	9.7	10.36	6.28

Table L.2 Average Annual Expenditure on Health Care for Those Who Perceived a Health Problem, by Area and Quintile

		Quintile					
		1 (lowest)	2	3	4 5	(highest)	Total
Urban	Quetzales	79.31	320.12	614.13	450.23	1002.4	599.58
	US\$	13.67	55.19	105.88	77.63	172.83	103.38
Rural	Quetzales	111.2	141.03	318.9	311.72	1117.94	271.12
	US\$	19.17	24.32	54.98	53.74	192.75	46.74
Total	Quetzales	108.63	162.91	366.35	350.5	1058.34	335.33
	US\$	18.73	28.09	63.16	60.43	182.47	57.82

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